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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/892,783	06/27/2001	Frank Bahren	Westphal.6313	9614

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EXAMINER

CHANKONG, DOHM

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2152

DATE MAILED: 08/12/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/892,783

Applicant(s)

BAHREN ET AL.

Examiner

Dohm Chankong

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 June 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 7, 10-14, 18-23 and 25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 7, 10-14, 18-23 and 25 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1> This action is in response to Applicant's amendment and remarks. Claims 8, 9, 16, 17 and 24 have been cancelled by Applicant. Claims 7, 10-14, 18-23 and 25 are presented for further examination.

2> This is a final rejection.

Response to Arguments

3> Applicant has amended the independent claims to overcome the primary reference Ford. Examiner believes that Ford still anticipates the amended claims.

Taking claim 1 as an exemplary claim, the amended claims now substantively read in part: "manipulating the first address of each device by adding a predetermined number thereto". Ford is directed towards a method for automatically generating an IP address for enabling network devices, in one network, to connect to a different network [see abstract | Figure 5b]. Ford achieves this objective by essentially "adding" the network prefix to the Ethernet address of the network interface card to create a second, different address that is utilized to access a different network.

Examiner believes that the interpretation of "adding" a number to another number is disclosed by Ford. Namely that appending a prefix is analogous to adding a prefix to a second number. In looking at the specification for guidance of Applicant's meaning, there is further disclosure to support an interpretation of "adding" as utilizing a prefix [see page 3 of

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Applicant's specification: "It is especially advantageous to utilize a fixed prefix for this" and also page 4].

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

4> Claims 7, 10-14, 18-23 and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

a. Specifically, claims 7, 14 and 22 are rejected because of the multiple meanings of the term "adding". The limitation of "adding a predetermined number" can be interpreted as either summing the predetermined number to the first address or simply joining the predetermined number to the first address (as disclosed in the Ford reference).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international

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application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5> Claims 7, 10, 12, 14, 18 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C § 102(e) as being anticipated by Ford et al, U.S Patent No. 6,101,499 ["Ford"].

6> As to claim 7, Ford discloses a first network which can be linked to a second network, the first network including a plurality of network devices linked with one another and have an associated first address for unique identification in the first network [column 6 <lines 54-57> | column 9 <lines 11-16>], a method for generating a second address for each said device comprising:

manipulating the first address of each device by adding a predetermined number thereto to derive the second address which uniquely identifies each such device in the second network [Figures 5a, 5b | Figures 3A-3C | column 2 <lines 19-21> | column 3 <lines 39-46> | column 8 <lines 50-65> | column 7 <lines 25-64> | column 9 <lines 4-9> | column 10 <line 55> to column 11 <line 33> where: Ford manipulates the Ethernet address of each device by appending a network identifying portion (prefix) to the Ethernet address. Thus, the prefix is essentially added, or joined to the Ethernet address to produce a second address that identifies the device in the second network].

7> As to claim 10, Ford discloses the method of claim 7, wherein the first network comprises a private network and the second network is a public network [Figure 5C <item 126> | column 2 <lines 43-61> | column 3 <lines 39-46>].

8> As to claim 12, Ford discloses the method of claim 7, wherein the second network comprises the Internet [Figure 5C <item 126>].

9> As to claim 14, Ford discloses a first network that can be linked to a second network, the first network comprising coupled network devices each having an associated first address that uniquely identifies each device in the first network [column 6 <lines 54-57>],

where each device of the first network also has an associated second address that uniquely identifies each such device in the second network to which the first network is linked, where each second address is derived by adding a predetermined number to the corresponding first address of each device [Figures 3A-3C | column 2 <lines 19-21> | column 3 <lines 39-46> | column 8 <lines 50-65> | column 7 <lines 4-7 and 48-64> | column 8 «line 66» to column 9 «line 16» | column 9 <lines 62-63> where: Ford's generated IP address is equivalent in functionality to the associated second address claimed by Applicant. Ford manipulates the Ethernet address of each device by appending a network identifying portion (prefix) to the Ethernet address. Thus, the prefix is essentially added, or joined to the Ethernet address to produce a second address that identifies the device in the second network].

10> As to claim 18, Ford discloses the network of claim 14, wherein the first network comprises a private network and the second network comprises a public network [Figure 5C <item 126> | column 2 <lines 43-61> | column 3 <lines 39-46>].

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11> As to claim 20, Ford discloses the network of claim 14, wherein the second network comprises the Internet [Figure 5C <item 126>].

12> Claims 11 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ford, in view of the MOST Specification Framework Rev 1.1 [“MOST spec”].

13> As to claim 11, Ford does disclose that the first network comprises a local area network (LAN) [column 6 <lines 34-37>] but does not specifically disclose that first network is a MOST network.

14> The MOST spec teaches a LAN that is preferably implemented as a MOST network [sections 3 and 8]. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to implement Ford's LAN as a MOST network as disclosed by the MOST spec, so Ford's network can obtain the stated advantages of utilizing a higher performance optical fiber network is more robust and faster than a typical network.

15> As to claim 19, as it is merely a network that implements the step of the method of claim 11, it does not teach or further define over the limitations of claim 11. Therefore, claim 19 is also rejected for the same reasons as set forth in claim 11, supra.

16> Claims 13 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ford and the MOST spec, in further view of Inoue et al, U.S Patent No. 6,163,843 [“Inoue”].

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17> As to claim 13, Ford does not disclose a method wherein the first network includes a firewall as an interface between the first network and the second network.

18> Inoue discloses a method wherein a first network includes a firewall as an interface between the first network and a second network [Figure 2 <item 1b, 4b> | column 2 <lines 14-20>]. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to include a firewall in Ford's first network to securely allow the transmission of messages outside of the first network.

19> As to claim 21, as it is merely a claim to a network that implements the steps of the methods of claim 13, they do not teach or further define over the limitations of claim 13. Therefore, they are also rejected for the same reasons as set forth in claim 13, supra.

20> Claim 22 is rejected under 35 U.S.C § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the MOST spec, in view of Ford.

21> The MOST spec discloses a multimedia system for implementation in a vehicle [section 2.1] comprising:

a plurality of multimedia devices communicably coupled through a

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communication link to form a private MOST network, wherein each of said plurality of multimedia has associated therewith a first address that uniquely identifies each said multimedia device in the MOST network [sections 2.4, 2.5, 3.11.1, 4.3.3.1].

The MOST spec does not explicitly disclose that each of said plurality of multimedia devices has associated therewith a second address that uniquely identifies each said multimedia device in a public network, wherein the second address is derived by adding a predetermined number to the corresponding first address.

22> Ford discloses a plurality of devices that has associated therewith a second address that uniquely identifies each said multimedia device in the public network, wherein the second address is derived by adding a predetermined number to the corresponding first address [Figures 3A-3C | column 2 <lines 19-21> | column 3 <lines 39-46 and 47-55> | column 8 <lines 50-65> | column 6 <lines 54-60> where: the Ethernet address is equivalent to the first address, and the generated address is equivalent to the second address. Ford manipulates the Ethernet address of each device by appending a network identifying portion (prefix) to the Ethernet address. Thus, the prefix is essentially added, or joined to the Ethernet address to produce a second address that identifies the device in the second network]. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include Ford's second address generation functionality into the MOST spec's multimedia network to simplify network connection, administration, and connecting to a network outside the private MOST network for MOST spec's multimedia devices [Ford - abstract].

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23> Claims 23 and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the MOST spec and Ford, in further view of Inoue.

24> As to claim 23, the MOST spec does not disclose a multimedia system comprising a firewall residing on the MOST network for linking the MOST network to the public network.

25> Inoue discloses a method wherein a multimedia system comprising a firewall residing on a mobile network for linking the mobile network to the public network [Figure 2 <items 1b, 4b, 6> | column 2 <lines 14-20>]. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to implement Inoue's network functionality that comprises a firewall into the MOST spec's MOST network to inspect packets as they are leaving the MOST spec's MOST network and to securely allow the transmission of messages outside of the MOST network.

26> As to claim 25, the MOST spec discloses the multimedia system of claim 23 wherein the public network comprises the Internet [section 2.5 – see diagram “MOST Open Model” with TCP/IP network protocol embedded in one of the devices].

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

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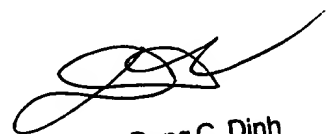
A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dohm Chankong whose telephone number is (571)272-3942. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30AM - 5:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Glenton Burgess can be reached on (571)272-3949. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

DC



Dung C. Dinh
Primary Examiner